

# **KENTUCKY HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE ADVISORY BOARD**

## **Small Employer Health Options Program (SHOP) Subcommittee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 21, 2013**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

The SHOP Subcommittee held its twelfth meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2013, at the Office of the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange. Carrie Banahan, Executive Director, Office of the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange, acting on behalf of Jeffrey Bringardner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m., and the Secretary called the roll.

Subcommittee Members Present: Jeffrey Bringardner, Chair (by phone); Wayne Barber, Dr. Richard Broeg (by phone), Paul Brophy (by phone), Dr. Joe Ellis (by phone), Edward Erway, Shelley Gast (by phone), Connie Hauser (by phone), Harry Hayes, Brian Sunderland, and Bob Weiss (by phone).

Staff Present: Carrie Banahan, Lee Bernard, Miriam Fordham, Wanda Fowler, Kris Hayslett, Bill Nold, Brenda Parker, Sherilyn Redmon, Melea Rivera, and Chandra Venettozzi

#### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the September 10, 2013, meeting as submitted, seconded, and approved by voice vote.

#### **Update on the Exchange**

Bill Nold, Deputy Executive Director, Office of the Kentucky Health Benefit Exchange (KHBE) reported on his testimony before the United States Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on November 20, 2013. Mr. Nold briefed the Subcommittee on his presentation and distributed a copy of his written testimony to the members of the Subcommittee.

Carrie Banahan, Executive Director, KHBE, updated members of the Interim Joint Committee on Health and Welfare on November 20, 2013. Ms. Banahan provided the members of the Subcommittee copies of her presentation. The presentation included current enrollment data, plans offered in both the Individual and SHOP markets, and a breakdown of enrollees by region, county, and income. The data showed that Silver plans are the most popular plans on the Exchange, most likely due to the availability of Cost Sharing Reductions for these plans.

Employers have shown a lot of interest in the SHOP Exchange, but, as of this time, there are no enrollment numbers. The first open enrollment period will end December 15, 2013, with an effective coverage date of January 1, 2014. The majority of the employer groups that are completing an application are smaller than 25 employees. Current data on agents and kynectors were also presented to the Subcommittee members.

**SHOP Issues**

A major issue in SHOP Exchange has been the inability of employers to browse plans and determine the cost of selected plans to each employee. To address this functionality issue, a “Browse Plan” link has been added to the SHOP web portal to take employers to a user-friendly Excel spreadsheet to allow for browsing. Chandra Venettozzi, Health Data Administrator, KHBE, demonstrated the shopping tool to the members. The shopping tool will be sent to members of the Subcommittee and will be on the SHOP web portal.

**Eligibility for Advanced Premium Tax Credits (APTC) and Employer Sponsored Coverage**

The availability of APTC to individuals with employer sponsored coverage continues to arise with agents, kynectors, and the general public. Individuals who are offered employer-sponsored coverage are not eligible for tax credits on the Exchange, unless the coverage is unaffordable or does not meet the minimum value standard. The affordability of the plan is based on the cost of the employee-only plan. If a dependent or spouse is offered coverage, and the plan meets the affordability standard, then a dependent or spouse is not eligible for tax credits on the Exchange.

**Other Business**

The next meeting of the SHOP Subcommittee is scheduled for January 16, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35p.m.